

**EPA Announces a 30 Day Comment Period
for Proposed Use of a Confined Aquatic Disposal Cell
to Expedite Cleanup at the
New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site**

The US EPA proposes to modify the 1998 Record of Decision (ROD) for the upper and lower harbor to include use of a confined aquatic disposal (CAD) cell in the lower harbor for disposal of approximately 300,000 cubic yards of PCB-contaminated sediment requiring cleanup through EPA's Superfund program.

This proposed change is outlined in a draft Explanation of Significant Difference (ESD) document. This document remains in draft form until public comments and a response by EPA is officially recorded. This ESD will be available as part of the the New Bedford Harbor Site's Administrative Record file at the reference desk of the New Bedford Public Library, 613 Pleasant Street, New Bedford, MA (508 961 3067), at the EPA Region 1 Records Center, 5 Post Office Square, Boston, MA (617 918 1440) and on the harbor cleanup website at www.epa.gov/ne/nbh.

EPA's evaluation of CAD cells, including both field monitoring and computer modeling, has concluded that CAD cell technology is a protective and safe approach for disposal of sediments in both the short and long term. Three CAD cells for disposal of navigational sediments have been used successfully to date in the same area as the proposed Superfund CAD cell. Recently finalized cost estimates indicate that both the time and cost to complete the upper and lower harbor cleanup can be reduced significantly through the use of CAD cell technology.

Comments on the draft ESD will be accepted from June 25 through July 24, 2010. Comments can be submitted either in writing or via email, as follows:

Mail written comments to:

David Dickerson
USEPA, OSRR07-4
5 Post Office Square - Suite 100
Boston, MA 02109-3912

Send email comments to: NBH_Comments@epamail.epa.gov

EPA will hold an informational public meeting on Thursday 6/24/10 at 7pm at the main New Bedford Public Library at 613 Pleasant Street to discuss the draft ESD and answer any questions the public may have.

The meeting space is fully accessible. Translation services will be available. If you have any further questions or special needs, please contact Jeanethe Falvey, U.S. EPA Toll Free 1-888-372-7341 ext. 8-1020